

HILLIS TANGLE DEFIES EFFORTS OF HIS FRIENDS

Only Effect of Trustees' Conference Bad, Says Secretary.

MINISTER IN SECRET TALK WITH LAWYERS

Nephew, Whom He Says He Helped, Sues for Libel.

James Bliss Coombs, secretary of the trustees of Plymouth Church, is authority for the statement that the secret meeting held Friday to consider the financial tangle in which the Rev. Dr. Hillis is involved, accomplished nothing except to turn public attention toward the unfortunate state of affairs.

Just how involved these affairs are is not connected with Plymouth Church will say. Only a few of the members know the exact condition and these have been pledged to secrecy. All that the others know is that their pastor, lured by prospects of wealth to be made for himself or others in Western lumber deals, has found himself in beyond his depth and for the time at least financially embarrassed.

The embarrassment was increased yesterday when Dr. Hillis was served with a \$50,000 suit for libel brought by his nephew, Percy Hillis, of Vancouver, B. C. This suit grows out of an explanation of some business troubles said to have been made by Dr. Hillis which tended to show that the financial state was of the nephew's making. This explanation, the nephew insists, does not explain and does not do him an injustice.

Parishioners Ask Light.

There is a strong feeling among some members of Plymouth Church that Dr. Hillis owes it to his parishioners to make a frank public statement regarding his financial difficulties. On the other hand, the board of trustees of the church are exerting their efforts to relieve the pastor's financial embarrassments and adjust financial differences without admitting the situation to such a climax. The trustees insist that the situation concerns Dr. Hillis's personal affairs alone, and should offer no reason for a split in the church.

Many of these friends—one report places the number at thirty—are members of Plymouth Church. It is some of these who are blamed for the publicity which Dr. Hillis's affairs have had.

Dr. Hillis spent yesterday in secret conferences at the Locust Club with his counsel, Frederick W. Hinrichs, and in evening reports. With neither party, however, did he have time to consider the matter.

Dr. Hillis to Preach To-day.

Dr. Hillis, it was said yesterday, will resume his pulpit to-day and preach for the first time since his return from a lecture tour in the West. He may refer to the present situation before the congregation.

Dr. Hillis was served with the summons in the libel suit as he sat in his study at the Ashokan Hotel, adjoining the church. A clerk from the office of William Austin Moore, the Brooklyn lawyer representing the nephew, handed the paper to the minister. Dr. Hillis's only comment was:

"I don't know."

The suit is based on interviews alleged to have been given by the minister to "The Portland (Ore.) Oregonian" and a similar article sent from Boston, C. W. Fulton, of Portland, to "The Brooklyn Eagle" and published in that paper on July 14 last. Dr. Hillis was quoted as saying that he had been lecturing and writing to obtain money by day of the business obligations of Percy Hillis, and that he was negotiating for a loan of \$100,000. Percy Hillis, through his counsel, alleges that these statements were false and libelous. Mr. Moore issued the following statement after service of the summons yesterday:

"When the Rev. Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, pastor of the Plymouth Church, lecturing at Chateaufort, in the vicinity of Portland, Ore., on July 13, 1915, suit was instituted against him on account of notes amounting to a little more than \$12,000 by Brayton & Law, Inc., of Chicago and Portland, who had secured and sold previously large timber tracts in British Columbia owned by Dr. Hillis, and for which service he had given to his notes."

"Interview False."

"As a result of that lawsuit an article appeared in 'The Brooklyn Daily Eagle' the following day, and in 'The Portland Oregonian' and in 'The Brooklyn Eagle' and reported an interview with Dr. Hillis. In both of these articles it was affirmed that the suit was brought on account of obligations of Dr. Hillis to his nephew, Percy Hillis, and that the suit was based on interviews alleged to have been given by the minister to 'The Portland (Ore.) Oregonian' and a similar article sent from Boston, C. W. Fulton, of Portland, to 'The Brooklyn Eagle' and published in that paper on July 14 last. Dr. Hillis was quoted as saying that he had been lecturing and writing to obtain money by day of the business obligations of Percy Hillis, and that he was negotiating for a loan of \$100,000. Percy Hillis, through his counsel, alleges that these statements were false and libelous. Mr. Moore issued the following statement after service of the summons yesterday:

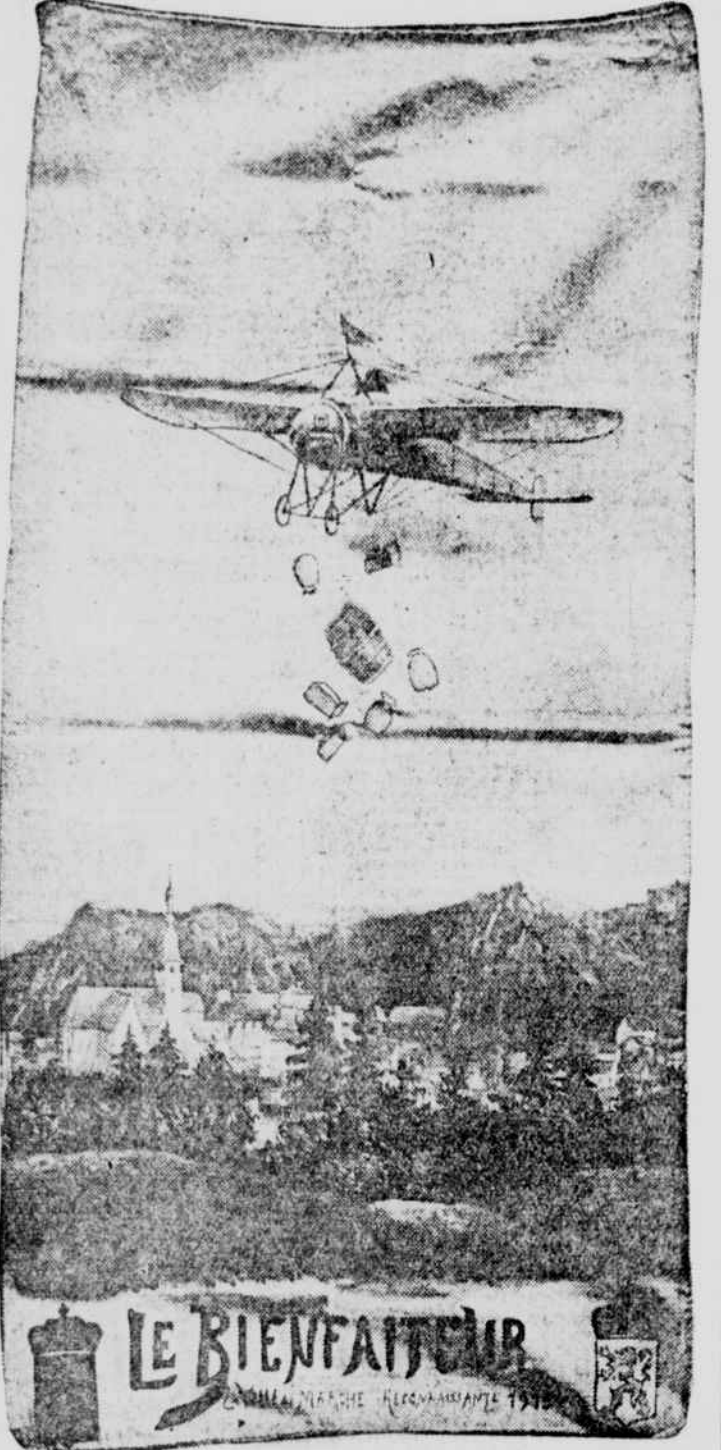
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Emptied Flour Sacks Return From Belgium, Works of Art



Sack with representation of American aeroplane dropping "bombs" of food into Belgium.

A few ordinary flour sacks forwarded from American millers have come back to the offices of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, 71 Broadway, as beautifully embroidered testimonies of Belgian gratitude. This consignment of empty sacks is considered the most novel and at the same time the most artistic expression of thankfulness received for American charity in warding off famine and hunger from King Albert's little kingdom.

It is said that the sacks received yesterday are but the advance representatives of several thousand to be shipped to the commission later. After the flour had been used in making bread Belgian women decorated the sacks in water colors and embroidery.

Perhaps the most beautiful of all is a sack that went forward to the Province of Limburg in a shipment of Canadian flour. It fell into the hands of a woman artist in the little town of Marche, who has elaborated an idea clever enough for the cartoonists. In water colors there is a representation of the little village in the background and a group of peasants in the foreground. Sailing through the air is a gorgeous aeroplane flying the American flag and representing an invasion of Belgium—a peaceful invasion, for the bombardment is of all kinds of foodstuffs, such as bags of flour, barrels of sugar, caddies of tea and other necessary articles of food. In addition to excellent coloring, the picture has real life and animation.

Another sack sent early last winter from Anthony, Kan., is decorated with the Belgian coat of arms in the Belgian colors. Below is the expression, "Remerciments aux Américains." On yet another sack decorated at the Moyenne School, in St. Gilles, a suburb of Brussels, there is the figure of Justice, flanked with American and Belgian flags and grasping a shield emblazoned with the double inscription, "FAX—FAX."

Officers of the commission believe that millers who put up the flour will be eager bidders at almost prodigious prices for the souvenirs of gratitude.

WALKED THROUGH LIFE IN HIS BARE FEET

Farmer, Dead at 92, Ascribed Age to Going Shoeless.

Union, N. J., Sept. 18.—William E. Mooney, a farmer who never wore shoes except in winter, died last night at his home, on Stuyvesant Avenue, Union Township, at the age of ninety-two. He ascribed his longevity to his custom of going about in his bare feet.

Mr. Mooney's death was due to injury on Labor Day, when he fell and fractured his right hip. He was born in Union Township and spent his life there. He always went to bed at 8 o'clock and arose at 6.

Even when there was frost on the ground Mooney went about in his bare feet. He smoked all his life, but never more than a pipeful a day. He never touched liquor except for medicinal purposes.

His wife died ten years ago at the age of seventy-two. He leaves five daughters and two sons.

ANTHONY COMSTOCK VERY ILL

Aged Vice-Crusader Has Fever and Is Very Weak.

Anthony Comstock is seriously ill at his home, in Summit, N. J. A fever which developed a week ago has brought the well known vice crusader to a weakened state, from which he may find it hard to rally with his handicap of more than seventy years.

When the indomitable censor of art and literature faced the storm of unpopularity which burst about him last June he showed no signs of weakening. The almost universal joy with which his reported removal as postoffice inspector was received seemed to shake him not at all.

Mr. Comstock, who early in the year was shorn of most of his power in the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice, recently made a trip to the San Francisco Exposition, and it is this which John S. Sumner, nominally his assistant, but really the present executive head of the society, blames for his illness.

BRADLEY ALIVE, SAY POLICE, BUT WILL DRAG POND

Condition of Valise Held to Disprove Theory of Auto Wreck.

MOTHER THINKS SON IS WANDERING, ILL

Fears Strain of Auto Trip Weakened His Mind—Wife Now in Stamford.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Stamford, Conn., Sept. 18.—"You can quote me as saying that Henry S. Bradley was short in his accounts at the Merchants' National Bank, in New York City. You can add that a detective is now seeking him and that he will be arrested if found. I will arrest him if I can locate him. I am not in a position to state the amount of his shortage."

Chief of Police Brennan made this statement early this evening at his office here. He was in a conference at the time with the wife of the missing bank teller and her brother. Earlier in the day Chief Brennan had said that while he expected some important report from New York about the case, he was not looking for Bradley.

The chief had made no attempt to-day to drag the Cove Pond, at the edge of which Bradley's abandoned touring car was found late Thursday night. He said he would search the pond to-night. He did not hesitate to say that he did not believe there was much likelihood of finding Bradley's body there.

Bradley's wife and her brother arrived here to-day. They went to the house of Mrs. William Davis, Bradley's mother. Mrs. Bradley said her husband was in fine spirits when he left his home in Woodhaven, Long Island, on Wednesday. He packed two suitcases carefully, she said, but did not seem particularly careful about them. Bradley is thirty-two years old and has been working for the Merchants' National Bank about seven years. He was supposed to be a young man of exemplary habits, devoted to his wife and family. He visited his mother, Mrs. William Davis, here frequently. She said to-day that when he left her house on West Avenue Thursday night she knew nothing of his plans. His sister, Miss Emma Bradley, who is employed as a librarian here, is the fiancée of a physician in Stamford, said her brother told her he had a business engagement in New Haven.

Police Find Clue.

Police have learned that Bradley's automobile was seen at the edge of the Cove Pond as early as 9 o'clock Thursday evening and that shortly before 10 a man who answered, in a general way, the description of Bradley, boarded a jitney with in Weed Avenue and went to Norwalk, Conn., in it.

Bradley had two suit cases. The suit case found in the automobile, which was undamaged, indicating that it went over the sea wall at a very low rate of speed, contained a Panama hat, some tools and a wallet. Chief of Police Brennan, while in his office here, said that her husband was short in his accounts. Chief Brennan said she here the news bravely. "I cannot understand it," she is quoted as saying, "and while he kept his business affairs to himself, I had no reason to believe there was anything wrong with him. He was in fine spirits when he left me and our daughter, Hazel, Wednesday."

Mrs. Bradley told Chief Brennan that her husband finished his vacation last week and went to work Monday. On Wednesday he took a day off to go to New Haven to visit a friend, whose name she did not know. She said that on Thursday morning a Merchants' National Bank clerk, named Alexander, who was on his vacation and a close friend of her husband, called her by telephone. This was after the Stamford police told her about the discovery of the abandoned auto here. When she told Alexander about the disappearance of her husband he said he would go to Stamford and look him up. Alexander did come here in his automobile. He visited the home of Bradley's mother, and later left for Westfield, Mass., with Bradley's young brother.

Mother Fears Illness.

Mrs. William Davis, mother of the missing bank teller, said to-night that she firmly believes her son's disappearance was due to a mental illness caused by worry over the death of his son Harold in an auto accident a year ago, and by exposure on the long auto trip to Vermont and back last week. She denied that her son had finished his vacation, saying that he was due to return to work to-day.

Mrs. Davis also denied that her younger son, William Davis, clerk of the Merchants' National Bank, had intended going to Massachusetts, she said, but the idea was abandoned when Bradley disappeared.

"Harry never dropped a word while

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U-Boats Will Sink No Liners Without Warning, Jagow Says; To Weigh U.S. Arabic Evidence

ALLIES NOW ASK BULGARS TO TAKE DEFINITE STAND

Require Sofia to Declare for Them or for Teutons.

SEE TURNING POINT OF BALKAN CRISIS

Paris Diplomats Say Period of Vacillation Has Been Ended.

Paris, Sept. 18.—The Entente Allies have presented a joint note to the Bulgarian government asking in effect that it declare itself as between them and the Central Powers.

The note, delivered to the government at Sofia two days ago, was sent in pursuance of a decision by the Allies powers to test the good faith of Bulgaria by submitting the recent concessions made by Serbia with the view of obtaining a definite statement as to Sofia's position.

Although the note does not fix a date for a reply, and is not an ultimatum, diplomats familiar with its contents say that it is of a nature requiring Bulgaria to take a stand one way or the other. It points out that the Allied powers are now prepared to offer the Serbians the concession of the Vardar River, with a possible neutral zone west of the river. Such a concession would give Bulgaria territory along her western frontier and would leave Serbia an opportunity to expand northward and westward the territory now controlled by Austria.

A visit paid to-day to all the legations here of the Balkan States revealed them showing deep interest, bordering on agitation, on the latest turn in Greco-Serbian quarters was that the note brought the question to a definite issue which would not permit Bulgaria to avoid reaching a determination as to the Allied note as the turning point in the Balkan situation.

Regarding the agreement between Turkey and Bulgaria for the Turkish railway concession, the understanding here is that the arrangement has been made but that the date for the transfer has not yet been definitely fixed. It was first announced that the transfer was made at the office to September 26, and afterward reported to have been postponed to October 6.

All announcements of dates for the transfer are considered unreliable at a time as a likely cause of irritation at a time when the negotiations have reached a delicate stage. Officials and diplomats are now awaiting Bulgaria's answer to the Allied note as the turning point in the Balkan situation.

Serbs Repulse Austrians Three Times on the Save

Nish, Sept. 18.—The new Austrian movement against the Serbs is increasing in extent, after the long interval of inaction on this front. Announcement was made at the War Office to-day that three attempts to invade Serbia had been repulsed.

SERBIAN OFFICIAL.

The enemy three times attempted to cross the Save during the night of September 14, but was repulsed each time by our infantry.

On the 15th we levelled fortifications of the enemy along the Danube front at its confluence with the River Sava, and toward the village of Bejina, near Soudska, on the Save front.

BAN TOURISTS AT MARNE

Military Authorities Prohibit Trips to Battlefield in Groups.

Paris, Sept. 18.—So many excursionists, frequently in personally conducted parties, have been journeying from Paris and other cities to the scene of the battle of the Marne that the military authorities to-day prohibited trips in groups.

The prohibition does not apply, however, to individual visits.

BERLIN GIVES BERNSTORFF POWER TO SETTLE SUBMARINE PROBLEM

Berlin, Sept. 18.—A full settlement of the submarine problem can probably be arranged by negotiation in Washington. Count von Bernstorff, German Ambassador to the United States, is in possession of complete information regarding the wishes and policy of Germany. The Associated Press has been informed, and has been given power to negotiate terms of settlement with the United States, subject only to the final revision and approval by the home government.

A long report on the submarine situation was received here from Count von Bernstorff on Thursday, and an equally long message of instructions went forward to the Ambassador this morning. Both dispatches were of a nature which seems to make officials confident that the whole submarine problem can be speedily and satisfactorily settled.

The form which the negotiations are now taking goes to strengthen this optimism, for in such conversations Count von Bernstorff is in a position to communicate many things not adapted to inclusion in a public note, but which are of a nature to convince the American government of the good faith behind Germany's assurances and the government's settled determination to remove the sources of the conflict on the submarine question. The hope is expressed here that the negotiations can be pushed through without delay and that no further issues may be brought in to complicate a settlement.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, Sept. 18.—The status of the submarine controversy with Germany to-day, as summarized by a government official, is as follows: "No more ships sunk. No more American lives lost. No more conferences. No more notes. Just watchful waiting."

Britain, United, Is Ready to Make Any Sacrifices

Sir Henry Dalziel Says That Determination to Win Dominates Petty Differences—Declares Conscription Will Not Cause a Breach.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
London, Sept. 18.—Sir Henry Dalziel, one of the most influential members of Parliament outside the Cabinet, an incisive critic of the government, and an important newspaper proprietor, made the following statement to The Tribune correspondent to-day:

By SIR HENRY DALZIEL.

Too much importance must not be paid in America to occasional differences here regarding matters of domestic interest or in questions of the conduct of the war. In every section political thought is absolutely united in a determination to prosecute the war until victory is finally assured, no matter what the cost in men or money.

The only point of difference, if indeed there is a point of difference at all, is whether we should not, without waiting longer, with a view of shortening the war, mobilize every national asset at our disposal. The nation is absolutely resolute and will continue so until the end. As to whether the Cabinet is strong enough to carry the decision on a conscription issue, I certainly think it is. There are a number of men in the Cabinet fully alive to the necessity of more energetic action than has yet been taken, and the country is fully prepared to do anything and everything that is demanded of it.

In reply to your question as to whether, if the government decides on conscription, there will be a rupture of the failure of every national asset at our disposal. The nation is absolutely resolute and will continue so until the end. As to whether the Cabinet is strong enough to carry the decision on a conscription issue, I certainly think it is. There are a number of men in the Cabinet fully alive to the necessity of more energetic action than has yet been taken, and the country is fully prepared to do anything and everything that is demanded of it.

It is admitted that mistakes have been made in the past regarding the conduct of the war. But it must be remembered that a war of immense magnitude such as that in which we are at present engaged is a thing entirely novel to our country. It was inevitable that it would take some time until we got into our stride. We have now got our first breath. Every day we are putting forward past miscalculations. Criticisms which were made in the House of Commons have had the desired effect on every department, and it is perfectly safe to look forward to higher triumphs in the near future than we have had during the last year.

I have had some complaints put before me in regard to the action of the censor respecting the American press and I am personally investigating them. The desire prevails among all political parties here to be on the best terms with America. If any legitimate grievance is brought to my notice I will undertake that it will be immediately rectified. There need be no misgiving whatever on the question of the British Empire standing the financial strain. Our enemies will suffer from the strain much sooner than we.

WAR IS HELL—SCHAUERMANN German-Named Exporters Find It So In Trading with Belgians.

Realizing that a war is what a famous Union general said it was, but willing to take as their own the name of the originator of the epigram, Conrad Schauermaun, his son Walter and his daughter Augusta applied yesterday to the Supreme Court for permission to be addressed hereafter as Scherman.

All these applicants are in the business of manufacturing lace. They trade mostly with Belgians. Since the war abroad began they have lost money, they told the court, because Belgians refuse to have dealings with persons whose names have the slightest suggestion of the Teutonic.

REPUDIATION, FORD ADVISE Governments Have No Right to Pile Up War Debts, He Asserts.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Detroit, Sept. 18.—"If I were to live with the future generations of Europe, I would urge the people to repudiate the debts that are being piled up by their governments in this war. I believe it is the duty of the people to repudiate them. What right have the governments of Europe to impose on future generations the unbearable burden they are amassing through this war?"

Such was the view expressed by Henry G. Ford in an interview regarding means for doing away with armament. Mr. Ford would welcome bankruptcy for the warring nations to put an end to the "whole miserable business."

"The best thing that could happen would be for the nations of Europe to go bankrupt; then they would be compelled to stop fighting," said Mr. Ford. "It looks as though they were getting dangerously near bankruptcy when they offer to give their American obligations priority over every other form of indebtedness to raise the \$500,000,000 war loan in the United States. It also savors of repudiation."

Wants Friendly Relations of Two Nations Undisturbed.

SATISFACTION FOR VIOLATIONS

Foreign Minister Declares Submarines Have Precise Instructions.

FAVORS ARBITRATION

Trusts Hague May Adjust Final Disputes—Would Welcome Wilson's Intercession.

Berlin, Sept. 18.—The German government will give its careful consideration to the evidence concerning the circumstances which attended the sinking of the steamship Arabic, submitted by the American government through Ambassador Gerard, Gottlieb von Jagow, the Foreign Minister, told The Associated Press last night.

Herr von Jagow said in his interview that Germany could not well repudiate the report of the commander of the submarine which sank the Arabic; nevertheless, there was room for a difference of opinion and Germany would examine carefully the evidence from Washington. He repeated the assurance that enemy passenger steamers which respected the maritime code would not be attacked without warning, saying explicit directions had been given the submarine commanders, and asserted the whole German government stood behind this policy.

In his statement the Foreign Minister went fully into the present status of the submarine problem and the adventitious circumstances which for a time threatened to revive the tension between Germany and America. He expressed complete confidence that, in view of the instructions which had been given and the precautions now being taken, the possibility of further incidents in connection with the submarine campaign which would disturb the relations between the two countries had been virtually eliminated.

Will Confer with United States.

Germany, Herr von Jagow said, would participate willingly in the negotiations now being taken up in Washington, and hopes for the most satisfactory results therefrom.

"It would seem, your excellency," said the correspondent, "that the renewal of tension in the submarine question is largely due, so far as German factors are concerned, to three main causes: First, to the failure to follow up Ambassador von Bernstorff's recent declarations at Washington and the assurances communicated to Ambassador Gerard here, with negotiations to arrive at some more definite and formal understanding regarding forms of submarine warfare; second, to the wording of the Arabic note, parts of which, according to English cable dispatches, seem to have caused an unfavorable impression in the United States, and, finally, to apprehension of a certain lack of harmony between German declarations of policy, as embodied in the instructions to submarine commanders communicated by Ambassador von Bernstorff, and the practical application of this policy, whether due to accidents, misapprehensions or other causes, under which the possibility of further endangerment of American lives at sea may not be altogether excluded. I mention these matters frankly because there seems to be reason to believe that the change from the optimism of a fortnight ago may be based on misunderstandings and lack of knowledge of the attitude of the German government."

Wants Arabic Case Arbitrated.

The Foreign Minister welcomed the opportunity to make clear Germany's position. Concerning the Arabic case, he said:

"We hope that our offer to refer the case to The Hague for adjudication will provide a satisfactory settlement, in case the United States and Germany are not able to adjust the question by direct negotiations."

"We could not, you will admit, well go behind the report of the commander of our submarine, or question his honest belief, based on the Arabic's actions, that the British captain was planning to attack his craft, particularly as long as we had against it only press reports and the word of the British captain. And in this case the master and owners of the ship which discarded its peaceful character, as unfortunately British ships repeatedly have done, and assumed the role of aggressor should be held responsible for the loss of life, not Germany."

"There may be room for honest difference of opinion on this point, however, and we are perfectly willing thoroughly to examine the summary of evidence which the American govern-

Samuel Hopkins Adams

went to Rochester to cover a public health convention and uncovered a controversy between the doctors and the patent medicine men. His article on Page 10 this morning tells how the doctors came off second best. Rochester papers weren't interested—but you will be.

The Sunday Tribune

First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements

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